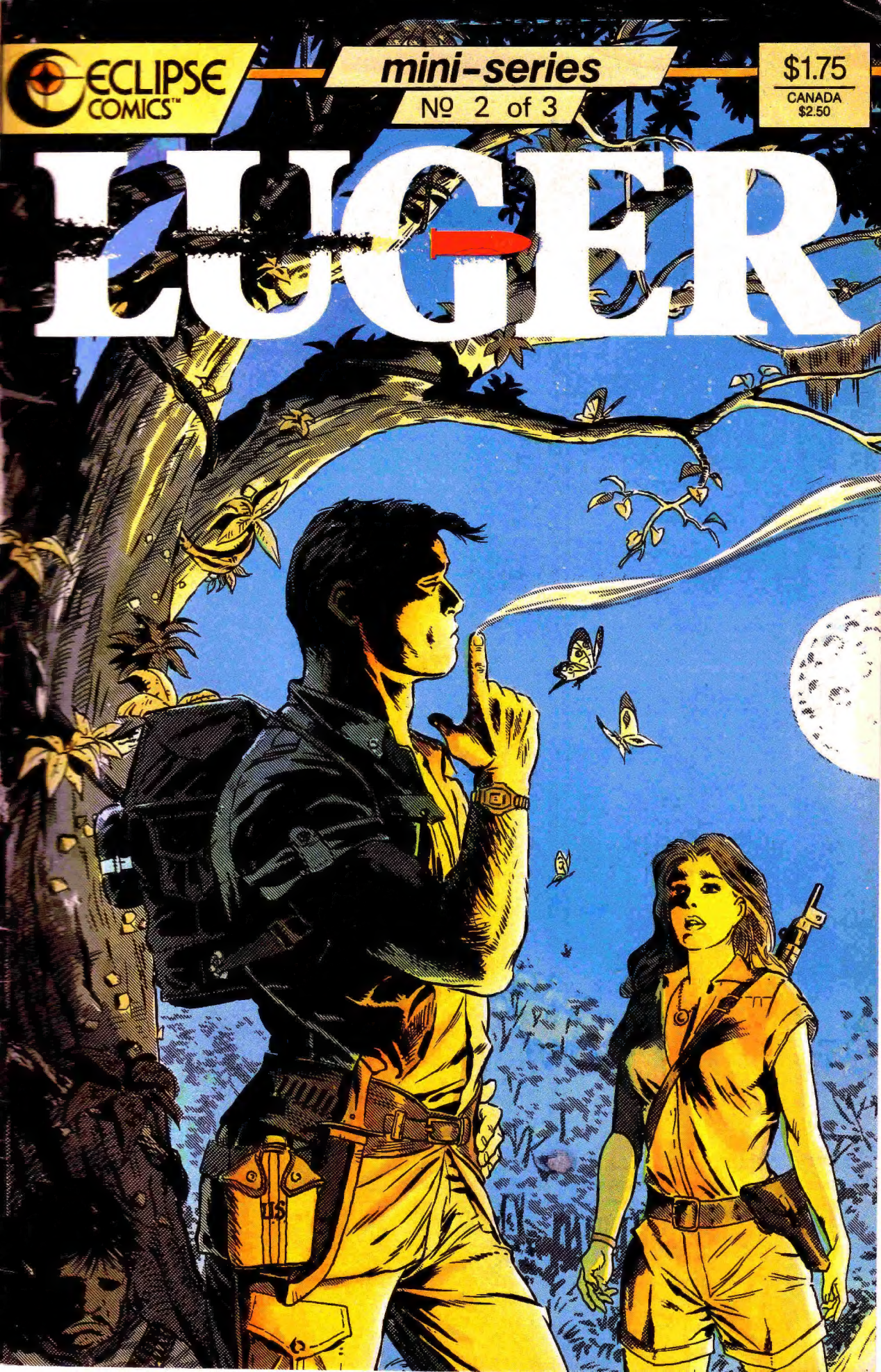
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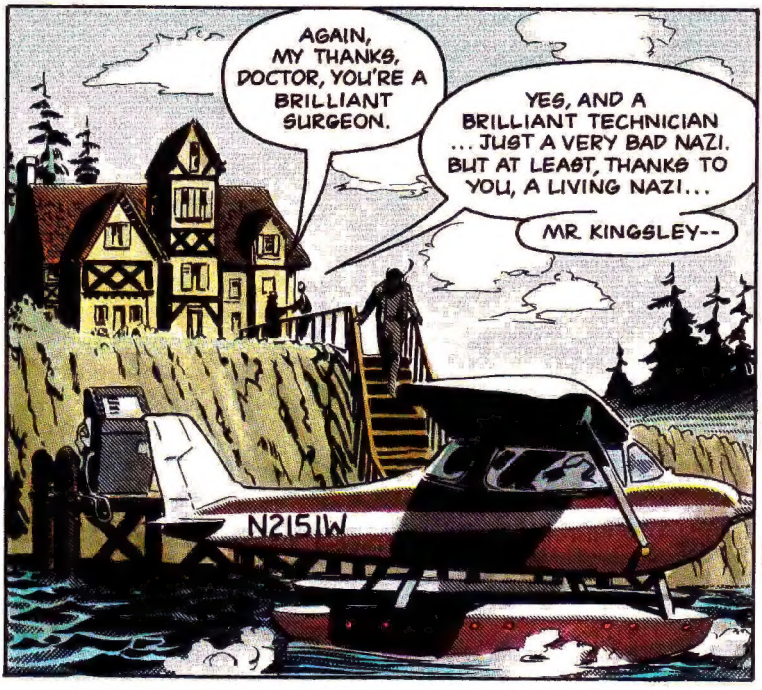
LUGER

LUGER
MR. LUGER... CAN YOU HEAR ME?
DID IT WORK? KINGSLEY?
IT WORKED, MR. LUGER, AT LEAST SO FAR.
I'M DR. VELLUM, REMEMBER?
EASY... YOU NEED REST.
THERE =unngh= ISN'T TIME FOR REST!
THE PATIENT'S RIGHT, DR. VELLUM, WE NEED MR. LUGER BACK IN ACTION IMMEDIATELY.
I WANT TO RUN SOME TESTS FIRST-- MAKE SURE THE TENDONS DON'T REJECT THE PROSTHETIC IMPLANT--
SORRY, DOCTOR, I'VE GOT A PLANE TO CATCH.
IS IT... UH ..."LOADED"?
IT IS MOST DEFINITELY LOADED. THE "RING SAFETY" IS ON-- I'D LEAVE IT THAT WAY UNTIL YOU'RE OUT OF THE COUNTRY.
REALLY, MR. KINGSLEY, I MUST INSIST THE WEAPON IS TEST FIRED-- IT IS A VERY DELICATE APPARATUS...
WE'RE LATE AS IT IS, DOCTOR.
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T SO MUCH AS PICK MY NOSE WITH MY RIGHT HAND. YOU READY, KINGSLEY?

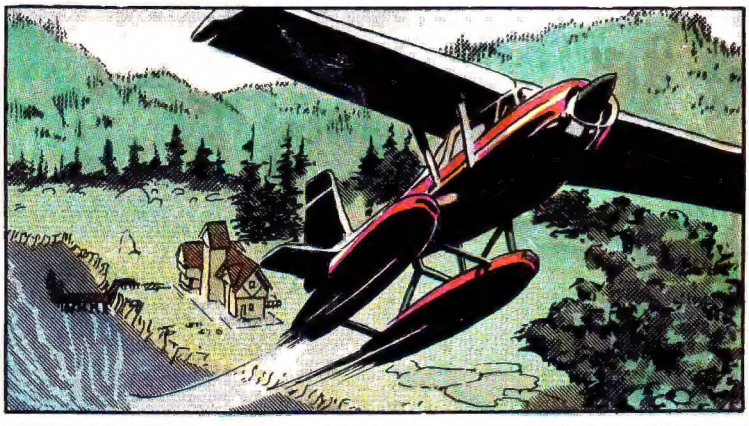
WRITER: BRUCE JONES • PENCILLER: BO HAMPTON • INKER: THOMAS YEATES • LETTERER: TRACY HAMPTON • PAINTER: STEVE OLIFF •

MY SINCEREST GRATITUDE, DR. VELLUM, YOU'VE COME THROUGH FOR ME AGAIN!
NONSENSE.
I'M NOT SO SURE THIS TIME, THAT'S THE FIRST "HAND-GUN" EVER BUILT. MAYBE I SHOULD DELAY CASHING THIS...
LET'S GO, KINGSLEY!


AGAIN, MY THANKS, DOCTOR, YOU'RE A BRILLIANT SURGEON.
YES, AND A BRILLIANT TECHNICIAN ... JUST A VERY BAD NAZI. BUT AT LEAST, THANKS TO YOU, A LIVING NAZI...
MR. KINGSLEY--
N2151W

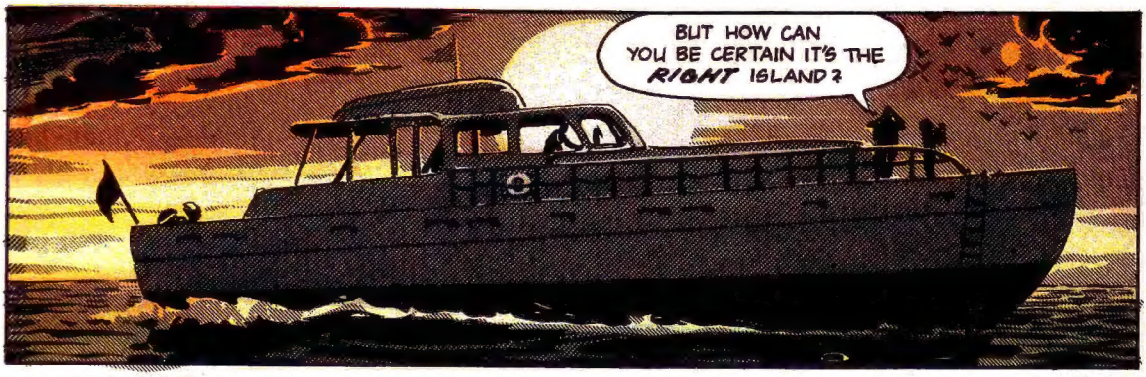
YES ?
HE'S AN ALCOHOLIC.
... I KNOW.
HE'LL GET HIMSELF KILLED, FANCY WEAPONRY OR NOT--PERHAPS BEFORE HE EVEN FINDS YOUR DAUGHTER...
...YES, PROBABLY.

I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW MY PROGNOSIS... YOU CAN ALWAYS GET A SECOND OPINION, OF COURSE.
C'MON, KINGSLEY!!
THANK YOU, DOCTOR, I'M AFRAID THERE ISN'T TIME FOR THAT EITHER.



THIS SMELLS OF DEATH, MR. KINGSLEY...

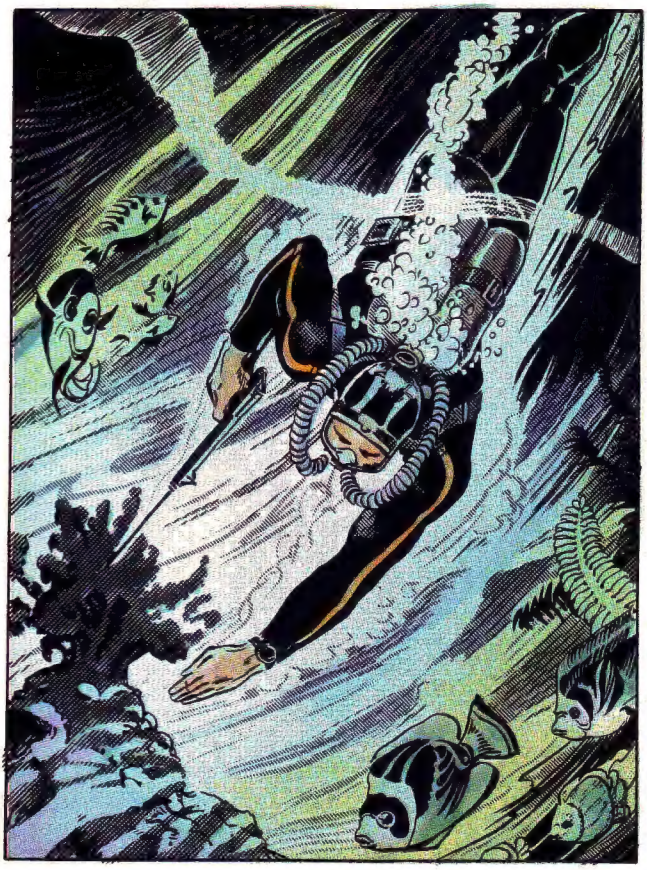
AND I KNOW THE SMELL...

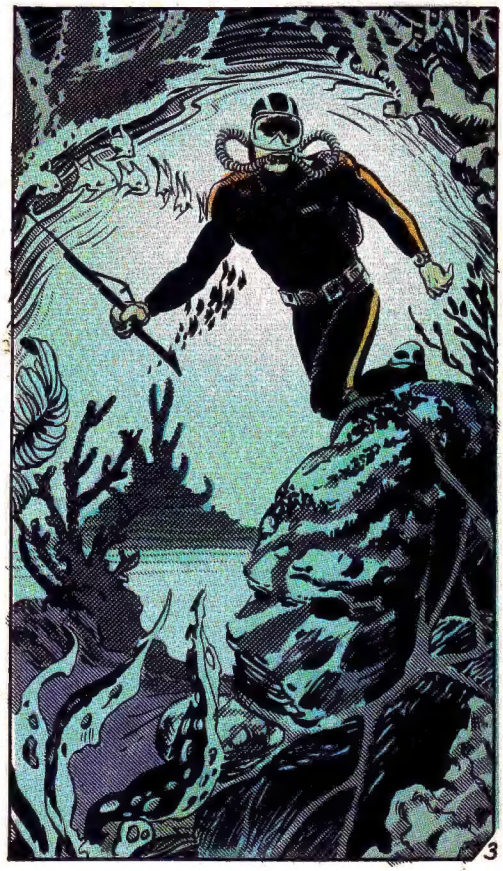

BUT HOW CAN YOU BE CERTAIN IT'S THE RIGHT ISLAND?

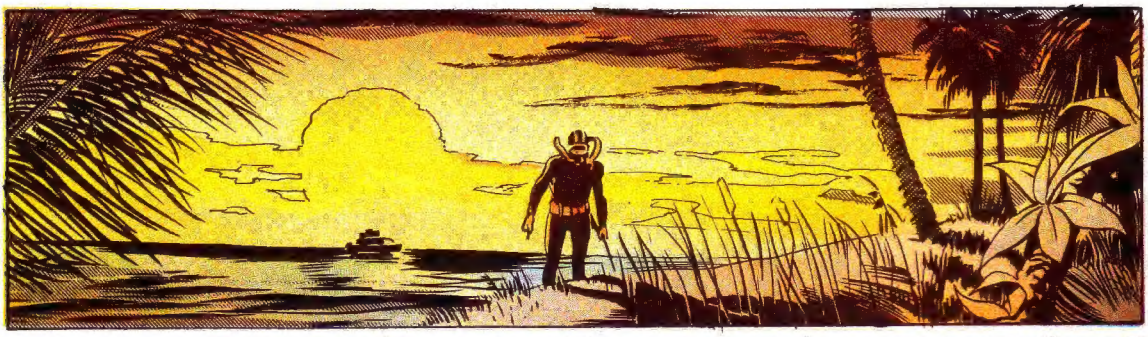
IT'S THE RIGHT ISLAND... WHAT I'M NOT CERTAIN OF IS IF YOUR DAUGHTER TERI IS STILL ON IT.
WE'LL KNOW THAT BY MORNING.
NOW REMEMBER: IF ANYONE GETS NOSEY, I'M AN AMATUER ABALONE DIVER FROM OHIO AND YOU'RE MY BROTHER BOB, RIGHT?

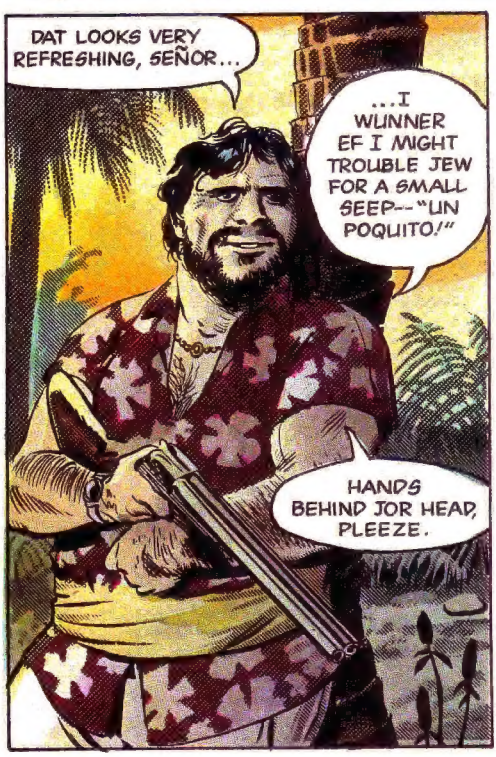
CORRECT.

I'LL TRY TO SIGNAL YOU FROM THE BEACH IF I FIND ANYTHING.
GOOD LUCK!

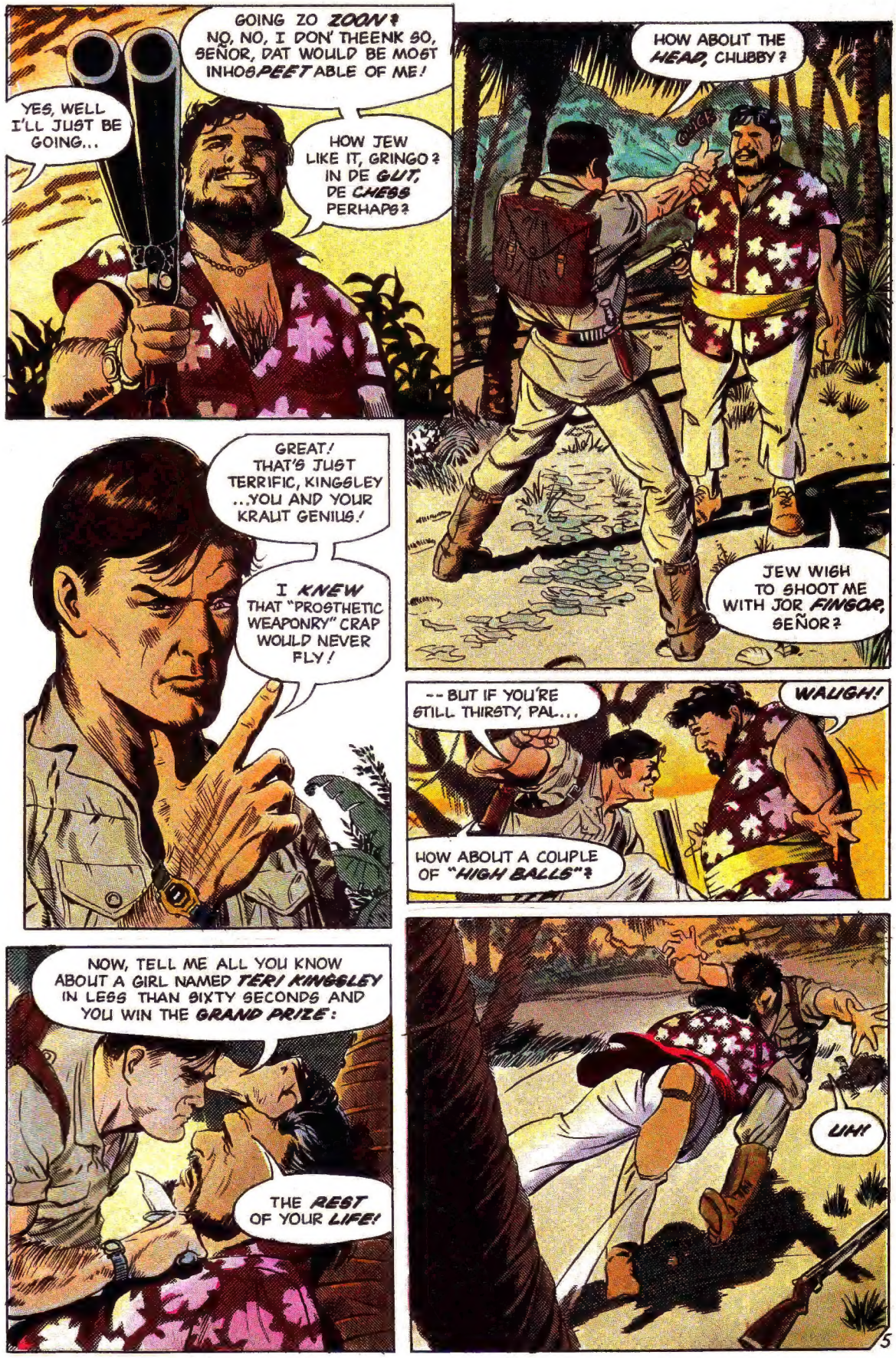




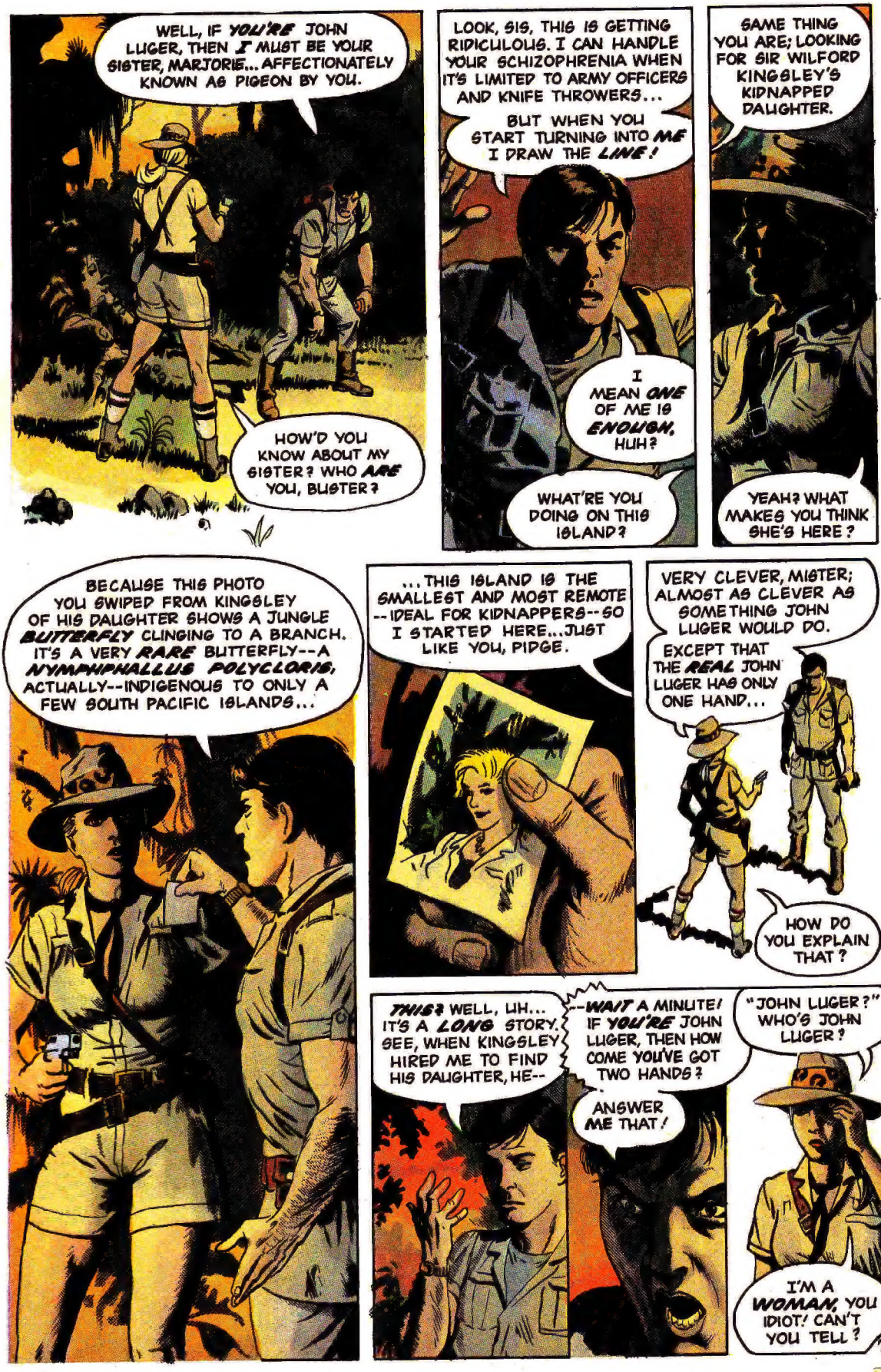



DAT LOOKS VERY REFRESHING, SEÑOR...
...I WUNNER EF I MIGHT TROUBLE JEW FOR A SMALL SEEP--"UN POQUITO!"
HANDS BEHIND JOR HEAD, PLEEZE.

I WAS JUST, UH, DIVING FOR SOME ABALONE...
ES DAT A FACT? JEW SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL, SEÑOR! MEENY ACCIDENTS HOPPEN ALONG DE COAST EACH YEAR, JEW KNOW WOT I MEEN?
CLICK


GOING ZO ZOON? NO, NO, I DON' THEENK SO, SEÑOR, DAT WOULD BE MOST INHOSPEET ABLE OF ME!
YES, WELL I'LL JUST BE GOING...
HOW JEW LIKE IT, GRINGO? IN DE GUT, DE CHEST PERHAPS?
HOW ABOUT THE HEAD, CHUBBY?
JEW WISH TO SHOOT ME WITH JOR FINGER, SEÑOR?
GREAT! THAT'S JUST TERRIFIC, KINGSLEY ...YOU AND YOUR KRAUT GENIUS!
I KNEW THAT "PROSTHETIC WEAPONRY" CRAP WOULD NEVER FLY!
--BUT IF YOU'RE STILL THIRSTY, PAL...
WAUGH!
HOW ABOUT A COUPLE OF "HIGH BALLS"?
NOW, TELL ME ALL YOU KNOW ABOUT A GIRL NAMED TERI KINGSLEY IN LESS THAN SIXTY SECONDS AND YOU WIN THE GRAND PRIZE:
THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!
UH!

JEW KNOW WOT I THEENK, SEÑOR?
AGH!
I THEENK JEW MEBE DRINK TOO MUCH!
JEW A LEETLE SLOW ON DE TRIGGOR, KNOW WOT I MEAN?
DIS TIME I NOT GOIN' TO PLAY WIT' JEW. DIS TIME I JES GONNA TAKE DE TOP OF JEW HEAD O-
KARRACK!
-FF!
HELLO, PIDGE. HOW'S IT GOIN', LITTLE SISTER?
THE NAME'S LUGER, PAL. JOHN LUGER. WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?


WELL, IF YOU'RE JOHN LUGER, THEN I MUST BE YOUR SISTER, MARJORIE... AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS PIGEON BY YOU.
HOW'D YOU KNOW ABOUT MY SISTER? WHO ARE YOU, BUSTER?
LOOK, SIS, THIS IS GETTING RIDICULOUS. I CAN HANDLE YOUR SCHIZOPHRENIA WHEN IT'S LIMITED TO ARMY OFFICERS AND KNIFE THROWERS...
BUT WHEN YOU START TURNING INTO ME I DRAW THE LINE!
I MEAN ONE OF ME IS ENOUGH, HUH?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING ON THIS ISLAND?
SAME THING YOU ARE; LOOKING FOR SIR WILFORD KINGSLEY'S KIDNAPPED DAUGHTER.
YEAH? WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SHE'S HERE?
BECAUSE THIS PHOTO YOU SWIPED FROM KINGSLEY OF HIS DAUGHTER SHOWS A JUNGLE BUTTERFLY CLINGING TO A BRANCH. IT'S A VERY RARE BUTTERFLY--A NYMPHIPHALLUS POLYCLORIS, ACTUALLY--INDIGENOUS TO ONLY A FEW SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS...
...THIS ISLAND IS THE SMALLEST AND MOST REMOTE --IDEAL FOR KIDNAPPERS--SO I STARTED HERE...JUST LIKE YOU, PIDGE.
VERY CLEVER, MISTER; ALMOST AS CLEVER AS SOMETHING JOHN LUGER WOULD DO.
EXCEPT THAT THE REAL JOHN LUGER HAS ONLY ONE HAND...
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT?
THIS? WELL, UH... IT'S A LONG STORY. SEE, WHEN KINGSLEY HIRED ME TO FIND HIS DAUGHTER, HE--
--WAIT A MINUTE! IF YOU'RE JOHN LUGER, THEN HOW COME YOU'VE GOT TWO HANDS?
ANSWER ME THAT!
"JOHN LUGER?" WHO'S JOHN LUGER?
I'M A WOMAN, YOU IDIOT! CAN'T YOU TELL?

BUT YOU JUST SAID YOU-- I--WE--
HM-M-M...
I NEED A DRINK.
SNIPER!
DOWN, PIDGE!
:UFF!:
BK & FY '86
OW!
THOK
...MY HEAD!
WE'LL BE SAFE HE--
LOOK OUT!!
VIP!
VIP!
VIP!

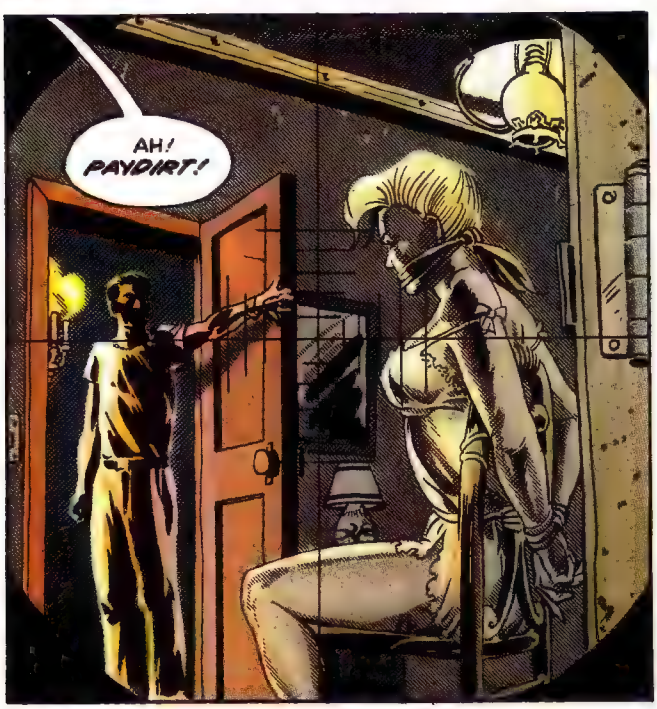
SHIT! WHERE IS THAT GUY?
IN THE TREES SOMEWHERE ...BEHIND THE SUN ...CAN'T GET A BEAD...
...JOHNNY?
WELL! LOOK WHO'S BACK! MY DEAR DEPARTED SISTER! HOW DO YOU FEEL, PIDGE?
W-WHERE ARE WE?
ON FANTASY ISLAND. WHERE'S YOUR GUN?
WHAT GUN?
NEVER MIND, YOU PROBABLY DROPPED IT BACK THERE.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THE JUNGLE WITHOUT A FIREARM, ANYWAY? THAT ISN'T LIKE YOU!
I HAD A FIREARM!
...THIS STUPID "HAND GUN" PROSTHETIC KINGSLEY'S KRAUT DOCTOR FRIEND MADE FOR ME! ONLY IT DOESN'T WORK FOR SHI--
BANG!

YOU GOT HIM! YA-HOO!
WELL, WHADDYA KNOW ABOUT THAT...
...GUESS IT WAS JUST JAMMED OR SOMETHING.
WHAT A SHOT! RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES! AND YOU COULDN'T EVEN SEE HIM!
JOHNNY, YOU'RE TERRIFIC!
YEAH, LITTLE TOO TERRIFIC, MAYBE... SOMETHING AWFULLY LUCKY ABOUT THAT SHOT!
SO WHAT'S THE PLAN? WHAT'RE WE DOING HERE?
GRAB THAT GUY'S RIFLE, I'LL EXPLAIN ON THE WAY...
ANY SIGN OF OUR MR. LUGER, SIR WILFORD?
NOTHING YET, MUMFORD...
THE MAN IS A DRUNKEN INCOMPETENT! HE'S PROBABLY DEAD!
PERHAPS... BUT AT LEAST NOW WE HAVE THE HAYSTACK...
IN DUE COURSE WE MAY EVEN ACQUIRE THE NEEDLE!

WELL? IS IT A HOUSE?
MORE LIKE A *STOCKADE*... HAND ME THAT SNIPER'S RIFLE, WILL YOU? IT'S GOT A TELESCOPIC SIGHT.

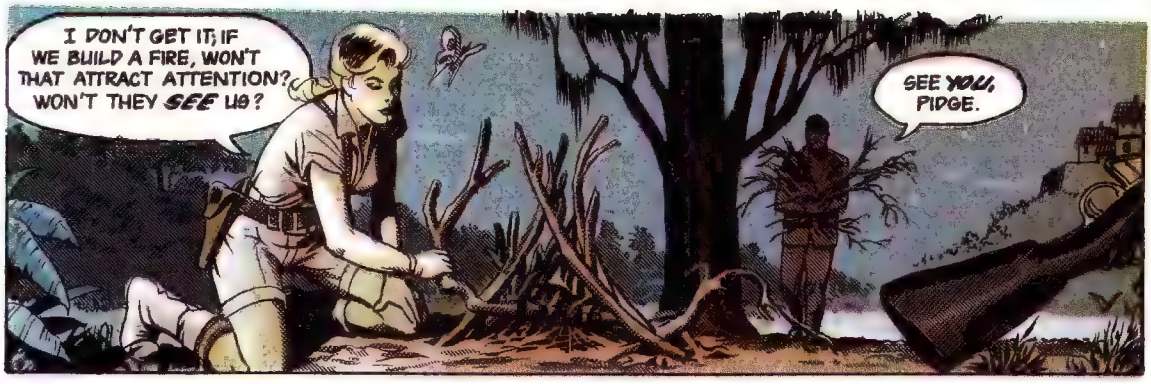
YEAH... THAT'S BETTER...
WHAT DO YOU *SEE*?

GOONS... WITH *RIFLES*...


AH! *PAYDIRT!*

IS IT *HER*? IS IT KINGSLEY'S *DAUGHTER*?
IT'S HER... TRUSSED UP *GOOD* AND *TIGHT!*
UH-OH! SOMEBODY JUST CAME INTO THE ROOM...

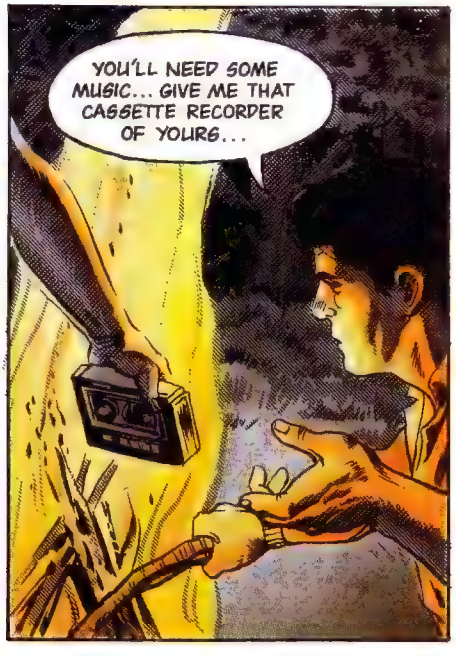
WHO IS IT, JOHNNY?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
NICE GUY...
WHAT'S HE DOING NOW?
LOWERING HER GAG...
NOW WHAT?
I'M AFRAID MR. KINGSLEY MAY HAVE TO SETTLE FOR SLIGHTLY DAMAGED GOODS.
LEMME SEE! LEMME SEE!
NOW...
...HOW DO WE GET INSIDE?
OH MY GOD! WHAT HE'S DOING TO HER! OH, THAT CREEP!


I DON'T GET IT; IF WE BUILD A FIRE, WON'T THAT ATTRACT ATTENTION? WON'T THEY SEE US?
SEE YOU, PIDGE.

REMEMBER THAT TIME IN ST. LOUIS WHEN WE WENT TO SEE THE WORLD FAMOUS STRIP ARTIST LILI ST. CYR AND WHEN WE GOT HOME YOU WERE LILI ST. CYR.
YEAH, SORTA...
SNAP
THINK YOU COULD REMEMBER THE MOVES?

YOU WANT ME TO STRIP? HERE? IN THE JUNGLE IN FRONT OF A BUNCH OF PSYCHO TERRORISTS AND DEVIATES AND, AND... SNAKES AND ANTEATERS AND THINGS?

YOU'RE RIGHT, FORGET IT! BAD IDEA. YOU GO RESCUE THE GIRL AND I'LL STRIP. TERRORISTS ARE USUALLY GAY ANYWAY, RIGHT? SURE.
OKAY, OKAY! DON'T GET SO MELODRAMATIC! I'LL TAKE MY BLOODY CLOTHES OFF. SHEESH!


YOU'LL NEED SOME MUSIC... GIVE ME THAT CASSETTE RECORDER OF YOURS...

"I AM WOMAN, HEAR ME ROAR..."
THIS IS ALL YOU'VE GOT? HELEN REDDY? YOU'RE GOING TO STRIP TO HELEN REDDY!?
I LIKE HELEN REDDY!

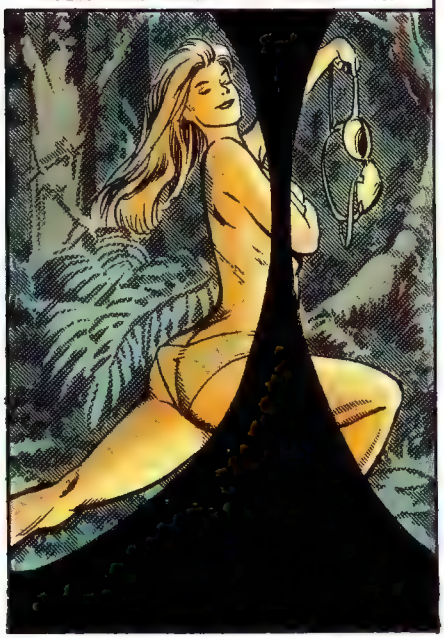
HERE, START PEELING. I'LL GET THE CAMERA.
I WOULDN'T DO THIS FOR JUST ANYONE, YOU KNOW!

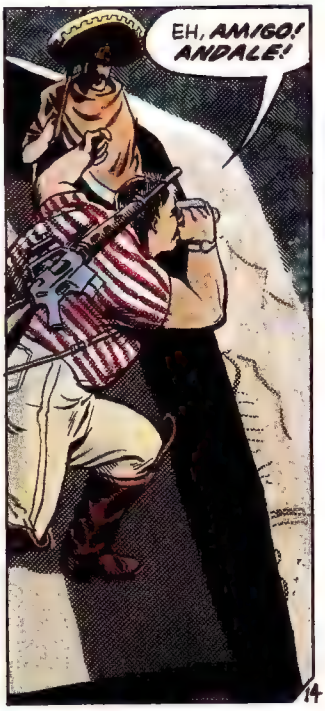
...“IN NUMBERS TOO BIG TO IGNORE ...

...“OHH, YES I AM WISE ...

...“BUT IT’S WISDOM BORN OF PAIN ...

...“YES I’VE PAID THE PRICE, BUT LOOK HOW MUCH I’VE GAINED”...





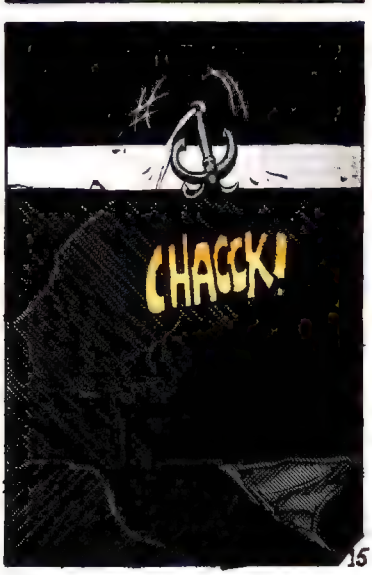
HEH-HEH! MUY GRANDE TA-TAS, NO?
QUE PASA?

..."I AM INVINCIBLE... I AM WOOOOOO-MAN!"...

SNIK!

WHIP!

CHOCK!
CHINK

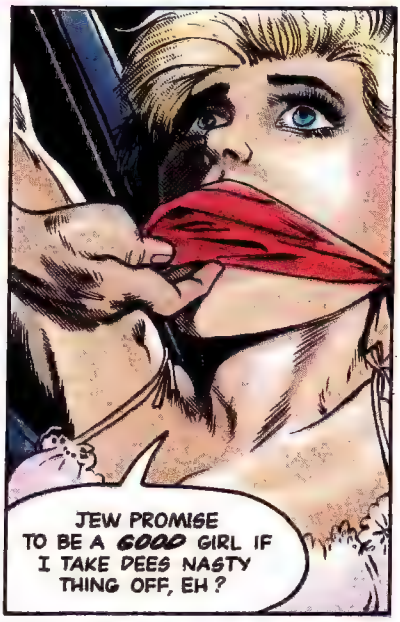

CHACCK!

HEY! MY TURN, AMIGO!
NO, ES MY TURN NEXT!
...UH?...
TONIGHT, LITTLE SPARROW, JEW BELONG TO ME ...ONLY ME...
...UH?...
SKRIITCH!

SHIT!
THRASSH
--EH?
CHICO, GO SEE WHAT IT EES.
AYE, CARAMBA! WHY ALWAYS ME!?
"CHICO TAKE OUT DE GARBAGE!" "CHICO GO SHOOT DE PUSSY CAT!"
ALWAYS ES CHICO!
HEY, PEDRO! JEW MISSIN ALL DE FAWN OUT DERE!
I NOT MISSIN NOTTING, HOMBRE! AS SOON AS CHE'S TRUE, I GONNA CUT HER TROAT!

HERE, PUSSY-PUSSY! COME TO CHICO! HE GOT A NICE .38 SLUG FOR JEW!
:GAWK!:
CHUKK!
CRRAACK!
JEW LIKE PERHAPS A CIGARETTE? NO? HOW IF I PRESS IT TO JOR LOVELY FLESH, EH? JEW LIKE DAT?
PAIN BEFORE PLEASURE, EH?

VERY PRETTY, SEÑORITA!
JEW HAVE EXCEPTIONAL TALENT / BUT EES TIME TO STOP DE SHOW, EH?

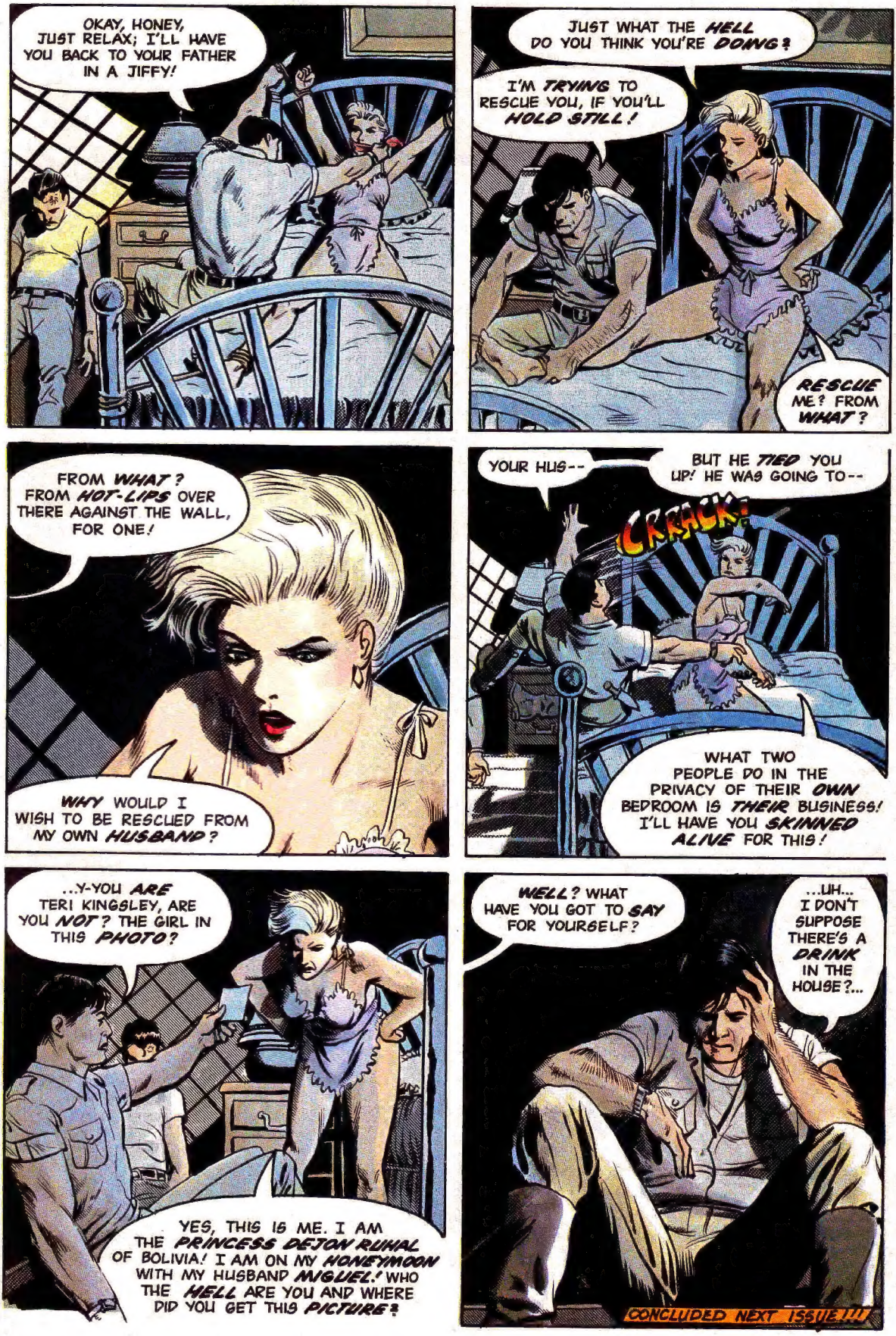

JEW PROMISE TO BE A GOOD GIRL IF I TAKE DEES NASTY THING OFF, EH?

JEW HEAR ME SEÑORITA? EES TIME TO STOP NOW! PRONTO!

WHAT TH-- CARAMBA!
A MOVIE SCREEN!

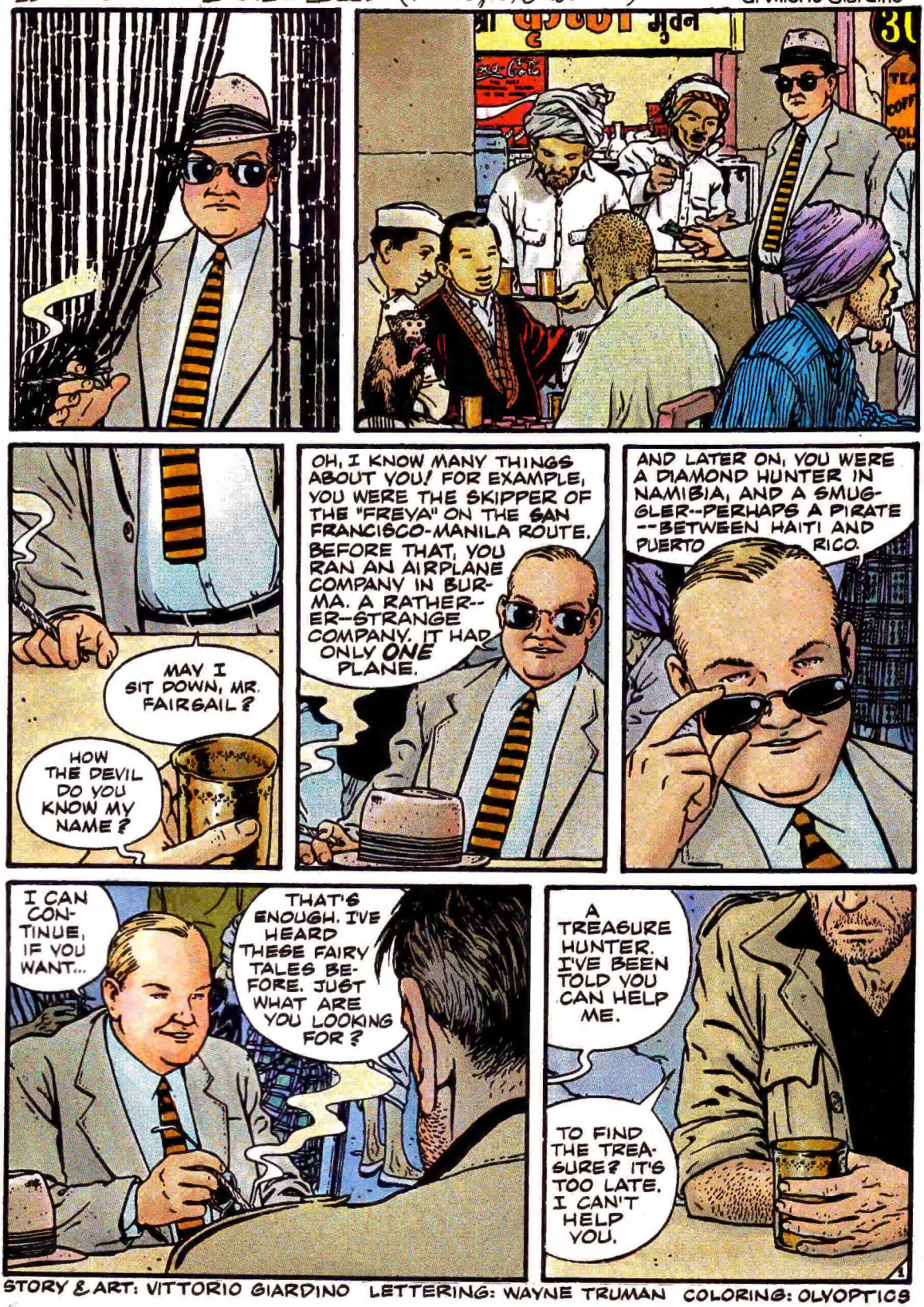
LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY, LOVER?

...SO SOFT...SO LOVELY...BUT WILL YOU BEAMME? WILL YOU SCREAM OR WILL YOU KISS MIGUEL'S LIPS LIKE A GOOD GIRL?
MOVE YOUR LIPS AGAIN, MIGUEL, AND I'LL BLOW THEM ALL OVER HER PRETTY NIGHTIE...
-- SO WHY DON'T JEW SHOOT? WHY DO JEW PLAY WEETH ME? PEDRO IS NOT AFRAID TO DIE!
...SHOOT?...I-I DON'T WANT TO SHOOT ANYBODY...I...
W-WHAT AM I DOING HERE ...WHERE AM I...
JEW DON LOOK SO HOT, SEÑORITA... JEW SICK? WHO ARE JEW?
I...I...I'M TERI KINGSLEY...SIR WILFORD KINGSLEY'S DAUGHTER...WHERE'S MY FATHER?...
JEW A LEETLE MIX UP. UP, I THEENK! COME TO ME... COME CLOSER ...TELL PEDRO ABOUT EET!
20

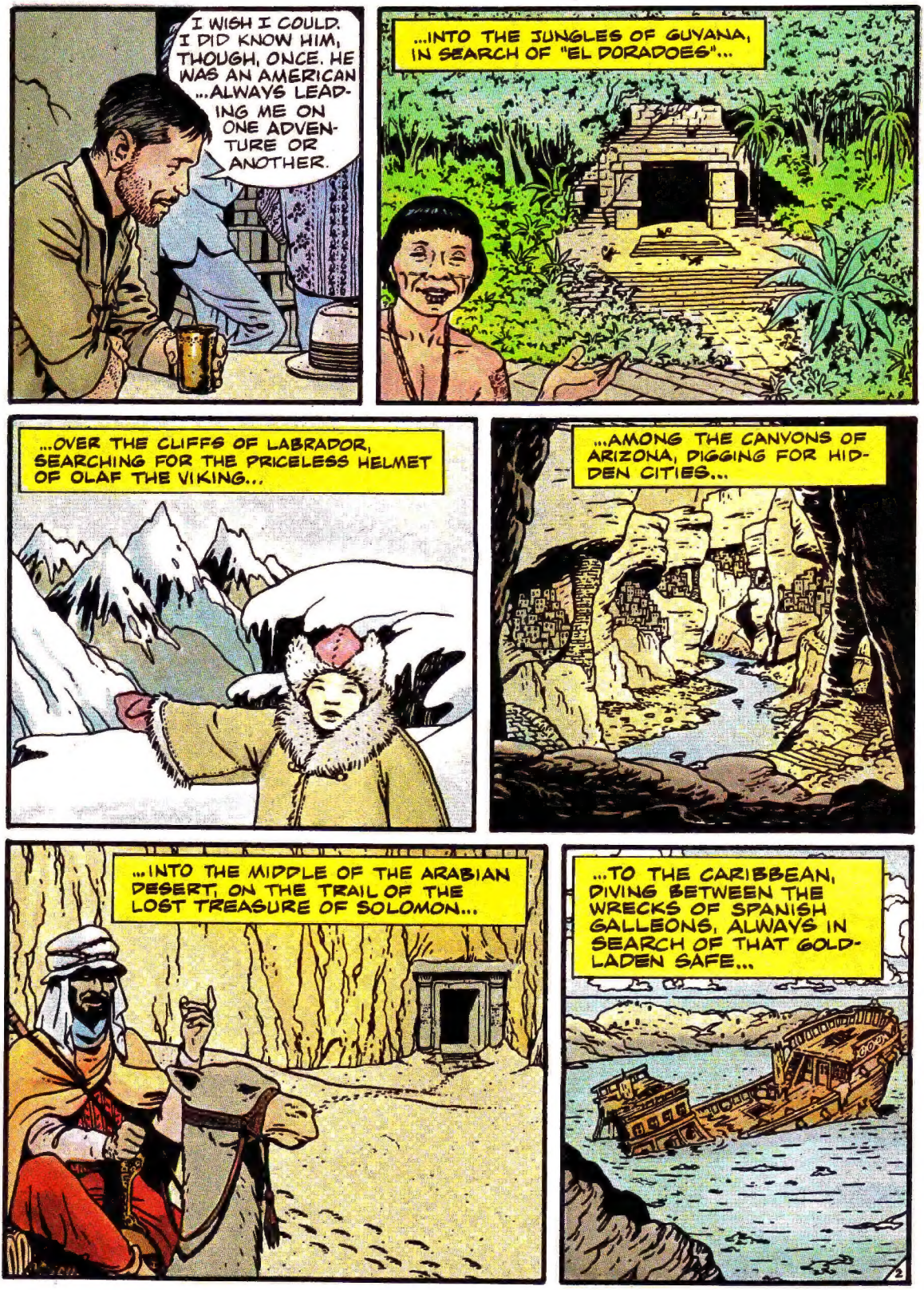

OKAY, HONEY, JUST RELAX; I'LL HAVE YOU BACK TO YOUR FATHER IN A JIFFY!
JUST WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
I'M TRYING TO RESCUE YOU, IF YOU'LL HOLD STILL!
RESCUE ME? FROM WHAT?
FROM WHAT? FROM HOT-LIPS OVER THERE AGAINST THE WALL, FOR ONE!
WHY WOULD I WISH TO BE RESCUED FROM MY OWN HUSBAND?
YOUR HUS--
BUT HE TIED YOU UP! HE WAS GOING TO--
CRACK!
WHAT TWO PEOPLE DO IN THE PRIVACY OF THEIR OWN BEDROOM IS THEIR BUSINESS! I'LL HAVE YOU SKINNED ALIVE FOR THIS!
...Y-YOU ARE TERI KINGSLEY, ARE YOU NOT? THE GIRL IN THIS PHOTO?
YES, THIS IS ME. I AM THE PRINCESS DEJON RUHAL OF BOLIVIA! I AM ON MY HONEYMOON WITH MY HUSBAND MIGUEL! WHO THE HELL ARE YOU AND WHERE DID YOU GET THIS PICTURE?
WELL? WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
...UH... I DON'T SUPPOSE THERE'S A DRINK IN THE HOUSE?...
CONCLUDED NEXT ISSUE!!!

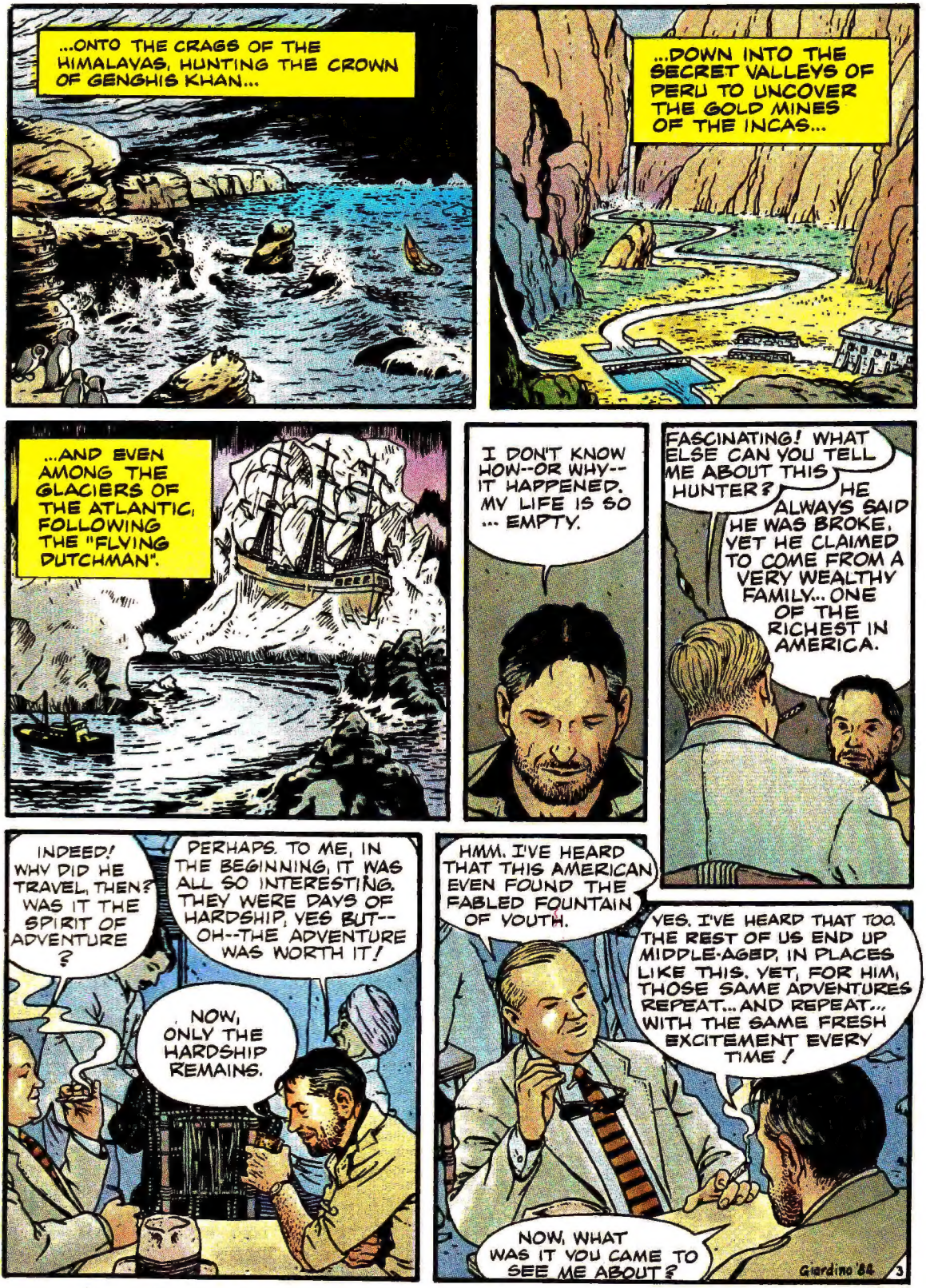
NORTHEAST of BAMBA-ISSA (Thank you, Carl Barks)

di Vittorio Giardino


MAY I SIT DOWN, MR. FAIRSAIL?
HOW THE DEVIL DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
OH, I KNOW MANY THINGS ABOUT YOU! FOR EXAMPLE, YOU WERE THE SKIPPER OF THE "FREYA" ON THE SAN FRANCISCO-MANILA ROUTE. BEFORE THAT, YOU RAN AN AIRPLANE COMPANY IN BURMA. A RATHER--ER--STRANGE COMPANY. IT HAD ONLY ONE PLANE.
AND LATER ON, YOU WERE A DIAMOND HUNTER IN NAMIBIA, AND A SMUGGLER--PERHAPS A PIRATE --BETWEEN HAITI AND PUERTO RICO.
I CAN CONTINUE, IF YOU WANT...
THAT'S ENOUGH. I'VE HEARD THESE FAIRY TALES BEFORE. JUST WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
A TREASURE HUNTER. I'VE BEEN TOLD YOU CAN HELP ME.
TO FIND THE TREASURE? IT'S TOO LATE. I CAN'T HELP YOU.

STORY & ART: VITTORIO GIARDINO LETTERING: WAYNE TRUMAN COLORING: OLYOPTICS


I WISH I COULD. I DID KNOW HIM, THOUGH, ONCE. HE WAS AN AMERICAN ...ALWAYS LEADING ME ON ONE ADVENTURE OR ANOTHER.
...INTO THE JUNGLES OF GUYANA, IN SEARCH OF "EL DORADOES"...
...OVER THE CLIFFS OF LABRADOR, SEARCHING FOR THE PRICELESS HELMET OF OLAF THE VIKING...
...AMONG THE CANYONS OF ARIZONA, DIGGING FOR HIDDEN CITIES...
...INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE ARABIAN DESERT, ON THE TRAIL OF THE LOST TREASURE OF SOLOMON...
...TO THE CARIBBEAN, DIVING BETWEEN THE WRECKS OF SPANISH GALLEONS, ALWAYS IN SEARCH OF THAT GOLD-LADEN SAFE...
2


...ONTO THE CRAGS OF THE HIMALAYAS, HUNTING THE CROWN OF GENGHIS KHAN...
...DOWN INTO THE SECRET VALLEYS OF PERU TO UNCOVER THE GOLD MINES OF THE INCAS...
...AND EVEN AMONG THE GLACIERS OF THE ATLANTIC, FOLLOWING THE "FLYING DUTCHMAN".
I DON'T KNOW HOW--OR WHY--IT HAPPENED. MY LIFE IS SO ... EMPTY.
FASCINATING! WHAT ELSE CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THIS HUNTER?
HE ALWAYS SAID HE WAS BROKE, YET HE CLAIMED TO COME FROM A VERY WEALTHY FAMILY... ONE OF THE RICHEST IN AMERICA.
INDEED! WHY DID HE TRAVEL, THEN? WAS IT THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE ?
PERHAPS. TO ME, IN THE BEGINNING, IT WAS ALL SO INTERESTING. THEY WERE DAYS OF HARDSHIP, YES BUT-- OH--THE ADVENTURE WAS WORTH IT!
NOW, ONLY THE HARDSHIP REMAINS.
HMM. I'VE HEARD THAT THIS AMERICAN EVEN FOUND THE FABLED FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH.
YES. I'VE HEARD THAT TOO. THE REST OF US END UP MIDDLE-AGED, IN PLACES LIKE THIS. YET, FOR HIM, THOSE SAME ADVENTURES REPEAT... AND REPEAT... WITH THE SAME FRESH EXCITEMENT EVERY TIME !
NOW, WHAT WAS IT YOU CAME TO SEE ME ABOUT?
Giardino '84
3

END